THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

The National Statistical Commission will, among others, serve as the nodal body for all core statistical activities; identify the areas of core statistics which are of national importance; evolve national policies and priorities relating to the statistical system; evolve national strategies for the collection, tabulation and dissemination of core statistics apart from evolving standard statistical concept, definitions, classifications and methodologies in different areas of statistics; exercise statistical coordination as well as statistical audit to ensure quality and integrity of statistical products.

The Central Statistical Organisation and the National Sample Survey Organisation will be merged into a single entity called National Statistical Organisations, which will function as the executive wing of the Government.

This is to operationalise National Statistical Commission.

**Development Project**

†2834. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICSAND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

the details of the development projects launched during and before the Ninth Five Year Plan period which are proposed to be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

the projects completed by the end of March 2006 out of the above and the number of projects related to irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICSAND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GK. VASAN): (a) and (b) This Ministry monitors all central sector projects which are development projects. At the beginning of 10th Plan (as on 1 -4-2002), 394 Central Sector Projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above sanctioned during and prior to the 9th Plan were under implementation. Out of 394 projects, 309 projects were due for completion during the 10th Plan, out of which 193 projects have been completed upto 1-3-2006. The balance 116 projects are likely to be completed by 31-03-2007.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation do not monitor the implementation status of all irrigation projects. Irrigation projects are undertaken and monitored by the Ministry of Water Resources. This Ministry monitors implementation status of only those irrigation projects which are taken up under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), as implemented by the various State Governments.

**Contribution of cattle industry to GDP**

†2835. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the share of cattle industry in Gross Domestic Products is increasing continuously;

if so, the percentage thereof in the beginning and at the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

the estimated number of people engaged in this sector, directly and indirectly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GK. VASAN): (a) No, Sir.

The share of livestock sector in GDP was 4.8 per cent in the 1st year of Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-03) and stands at 4.4 per cent in 2004-05 (the data available for the latest year). The Tenth Five Year Plan ends at 2006-07.

The estimated number of workers in "farming of animals", as per the rates based on 60th round (January-June, 204) of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) is of the order of 1.8 crore.

**MPLAD scheme**

2836. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPLDS is still useful and a popular scheme in the field despite the complaint of misuse by a few Members;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.